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Mildred and the Little House

By MARY L. PARKER

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"Let's get married." It sounds easy and casual enough, quite as if it were uttered on the spur of the moment; but Tom Corbett was far from easy and casual when he said it.

He had been framing the proposal for several months, and the various glowing sentiments which he evolved did not sound anything like the bald three words which he finally used.

But pretty Mildred McKay probably saw the volumes of eloquence pent up by bashfulness in Tom's adoring brown eyes, for she said:

"All right, Tom; let's."

Tom didn't know just what to do or say next; but it wasn't very long before he found Mildred in his arms, and he was marveling how soft and warm her arms were.

Naturally, after a bit, they fell to planning about the future, and found it an engrossing and fascinating pastime.

"Uncle Bob will build us a little house on the lot west of Mr. Simmons," said Mildred. "That's a nice neighborhood, and you'll be close to your work."

"Will he, Mildred?"

"Of course he will; I'll tell him that I want him to."

Uncle Bob was a wealthy and childless dabbler in real estate, and Mildred was his favorite niece. He paid in various ways for being fond of her. From the time she had been a small girl, he was expected to side with her against her parents; to avert threatened and deserved punishment; and to help get her own way when Mr. and Mrs. Moore proved unexpectedly stubborn.

They discussed the little house Uncle Bob was to build, in a good-by that lasted from the back parlor to the front gate, and which consumed nearly two hours in the saying. The question of whether the shingle



Passed It Twice Daily.

should be plain or stained required a caress for nearly every shingle. When Tom finally tore himself away from Mildred and the front gate, the little house had become a castle in the air. He sauntered homeward through the warm, odorous spring night, too happy even to whistle.

The engagement was blushing confessed to Uncle Bob, who, after a certain amount of teasing, agreed to build the little house. Tom and Mildred gravely assumed a businesslike air and spoke of mortgages and monthly payments and similar proxy subjects. Uncle Bob smiled and sometimes Uncle Bob, and more mysterious and delightful hints about wedding presents.

The little house began to go up in the vacant lot next to Simmons'. Tom went four blocks out of his way to pass it twice a day. Not that such a course ever gained him a good look at it. When he was within a few hundred feet, his face began to grow hot; he seemed to have eyes all about his head that discovered his neighbors-elect peering out and smiling at him. So he looked straight ahead with a miserable assumption of indifference, hastened his steps, and almost ran by.

But the embarrassments of the day were almost swallowed up in the delights of the friendly twilight. Every evening he and Mildred, and sometimes Uncle Bob, went down to the little house and inspected it lovingly, board by board. Mildred, sure-footed as a mountain goat—which is a clumsy simile for one so dainty—clambered about the bare rafters and even out onto the roof. Together they talked over the plans and suggested minor changes which Uncle Bob faithfully impressed upon the carpenter's next day.

One evening, when they followed the line of planks that led through the hall and parlor to the dining-room, Mildred uttered a little cry of disappointment.

"Oh, Uncle Bob!" she said, "I didn't want a long window at the back of the dining-room. I wanted one of those high, square ones, a buffet window, you know."

"This room won't be any too light," suggested Uncle Bob, doubtfully. "You see, it's on the north

side of the house, and I think two large windows are what you need." Tom, hands in pockets, gazed out the empty frame. "Besides, with one of those high windows, Mildred, you couldn't see out of doors. And it's a pretty view out there."

It was a pretty view. The little house was on the crest of a hill and the ground sloped away from their back yard. Across a valley of greenery, for the many trees were now in their bravest panoply, loomed the red-brick automobile factory, in the office of which Tom earned his comfortable salary.

"I think the view is horrid," replied Mildred, surprisingly, "and I don't want to be looking at that ugly old factory all the time. That's the reason I'd like a high window."

"It may be ugly, but it's the place that is going to support us," Tom spoke quietly, but he shut his lips into a straight line in a peculiar way he had. Mildred knew she had displeased him, and that he was now arrayed against the buffet window.

She answered emphatically. Uncle Bob's kindly efforts could neither stop nor turn aside the discussion that followed. Their visit to the little house was cut short, and they walked home in constrained silence.

After Uncle Bob had taken his departure Mildred unwisely reopened the subject of the window. What she had said about the factory rankled, though Tom tried to be fair. He was hurt, and showed it. Mildred grew unreasonable and then angry. The discussion wandered away from the window to other fields and grew ever more bitter till Tom found himself out in the street, homeward bound, with his ring in his pocket and a throbbing pain in his heart.

The next day he would have tried to patch up their differences. But when he went to the Moore home it was to discover that Mildred had already gone to visit a married sister a hundred miles away. So Tom shut his teeth and vowed she could stay there until she became more sensible about the window. He could not bear to go to Uncle Bob, so he wrote a letter, explaining that the engagement was broken, and that the house need not be finished.

Two months dragged by, and Tom had never known such a dull, cheerless day, though other folks thought it was a pleasant summer. He avoided the vicinity of the little house; food had no savor, and he did not sleep well. Mildred's face was constantly before his eyes.

At last he hunted up Uncle Bob. "I can't stand it any longer," he said; "I'm going to Mildred and tell her she must have her own way about everything if she'll only marry me. So finish the house."

"The house if finished," said Uncle Bob.

"What kind of a window in the dining-room?"

"A long one."

"But I've changed my mind. I want a buffet window there."

Uncle Bob's jaw snapped. "I don't care," Mildred's spoiled, and I've helped to spoil her. It's time she was curbed."

The sorely tried Tom grew haughty. "You'll put a buffet window there, or we won't live in that house!"

They stood glaring at each other. A messenger relieved a strained situation by putting a telegram into Tom's hands. He tore it open and read aloud its contents.

"Dear Tom," it said, in fine diergart of expense and the etiquette of telegram writing, "I was hateful and selfish about that window. I love the view of the factory. Have Uncle Bob put a long window in the dining-room, for my sake. Can you come over here for Sunday? Mildred."

It was Monday afternoon. Tom crunched Uncle Bob's hand in both of his and rushed away. There was a train in half an hour.

Uncle Bob looked after him humorously. "Hateful and selfish; I love the view; a long window," he quoted. "Oh, well, that settles it. Briggs," he said to a man who had come up from across the street, "go and get your tools. I've got a little job for you. I want to change a window in that house I built next to Simmons'."

A Fine Talker.

"I like the look of this parrot," said the lady who had stepped into the bird store. "Is he a good talker?" The proprietor replied that the bird was an excellent talker, and it was evident the customer was favorably impressed.

"What is your price for him?" she asked.

The man had noticed the rich apparel worn by his customer, and he judged that there was a chance to make a little "easy money" at the expense of one who would never miss it. "Ten dollars," he said with just the slightest possible hesitation.

"Five dollars, madam," instantly croaked the parrot.

The lady looked at the proprietor, who had turned red.

"He certainly is a fine talker," she said, "and he also seems to have good sense. I am willing to take him at his own valuation. Do I get him for that?"

"You do," answered the man, sadly.

Making Sure.

"What's your idea in stoppin' yer watch an' keepin' the hands at six?" "Thin Ol' knows it's always correct at me time to get up in the morning."

—Life.

When Johnny Counted.

Mother—Johnny Jones counts ten before he fights.

Tommy—Yes; and he doesn't count for anything after.

CIGARETTES FLOURISH

STATISTICS SHOW ALARMING INCREASE IN USE OF "PILL"

Efforts of Anti-Cigarette Forces in 1910 Bailed by Increase of 1,856,487,308 Cigarettes in Country's Output.

New York.—Like a tack in a taxicab tire comes the news that the efforts of the anti-cigarette forces had no other result in 1910 than to increase the output of cigarettes in this country by some 1,856,487,308 of the little cousins of my Lady Nicotine.

Except to freshmen and sophomores of "frats," where pipes are frowned upon, the idea of one billion, eight hundred and fifty-six million, four hundred and eighty-seven thousand, three hundred and eight cigarettes is a mere mythological figure, fixed to fit the fancy of the mathematical mind. For the benefit of all citizens not included in the foregoing statistics are furnished. Taking the average length of an honest cigarette at two and one-half inches, the increase for 1910, if placed end to end, would make a string 73,403 miles in length. This would be sufficient to build an unbroken line of cigarettes around the world, and then third track the system. These, he it understood, are cigarettes of American make, from the native straight cuts of Virginia to the actual and only "pills" smoked by the sultan, and made somewhere down in Greenwich street.

No one in the trade knows why there has been an increase. Probably boys' who read novels have more money, says one. That the increase is due to the fact that hotels provide smoking rooms for women is denied. Dealers do point to the increase in the enrollment at the large schools and colleges as a possible factor.

BULL TERRIER FIGHTS BULL

After a Furious Battle Both Succumb to Wounds, but the Bull Dies First.

New York.—A fight to the death between a thoroughbred English bull terrier and a Holstein bull took place at the stock farm of Eben Grover, at New Durham, N. J. The dog was a perfect specimen of the breed and was valued at \$750. It took a dislike to the bull, a \$1,500 animal, immediately after the dog was brought to the farm. The other night the bull was placed in a large box stall. When an employee opened the door the dog slipped in and in two seconds the battle was on.

The dog whirled about the stall with lightning speed, leaping at the bull's throat with snapping teeth. Twice the dog was pinned against the wall of the stall by the horns of the brute, but finally by a quick spring sank its teeth in the throat of the bull. The great animal, roaring with pain, swung the little dog about and dashed its body against the walls, but it would not let go.

The battle had raged for an hour and Grover, with his sons, had entered the stall twice at the peril of their lives when the huge bull sank to his knees and toppled over dead. The dog, loosening its hold for the first time, limped into a corner of the stall and died within a few minutes. Grover's right leg was badly torn by the dog's teeth.

A SAVINGS BANK ON WHEELS

Paterson, N. J., Has Novelty in Shape of Auto Bank, Fire, Bullet and Burglar Proof.

Paterson, N. J.—The city of Paterson now has a bank on wheels. It is fire-proof, bullet-proof and burglar-proof, and can travel 50 miles an hour when being chased by would-be looters. This auto-bank is expected to revolutionize the banking business, especially in the outlying districts.

The car is fitted up with desks and compartments for books, checks and papers. A solid steel safe is in one corner of the machine. A small window guarded with heavy steel and brass bars and a liberal supply of firearms, afford the clerks protection from "hold-up" men.

Officers of the trust company are of the opinion that the sending of the "bank" through the country will be welcomed by depositors, especially those who have no place for keeping cash or other valuables in their homes or business places.

Church Fosters Love-Making.

St. Louis.—A big club parlor with easy chairs and cozy corners, advantageous shadows, a gas log and chimney, and a piano, are the features of the Fountain Park Congregational church, will stimulate social activities among folks of his community. The club will be in the basement of the church, and there will be no chaperons, overseers or restrictions and prohibitions.

"The young people of my congregation are presumed to conduct themselves properly," said Dr. Toomey. "Love-making is natural and proper. I expect the young folks to act properly."

Joke Lands Him in Jail.

Sioux Falls, S. D.—As the result of a practical joke a barber living at Artesian has been arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct because he partially shaved the head of a enemy of the town, the complaining witness against the barber being the wife of the individual thus decorated.

WHERE OIL IS MOST NEEDED

Chauffeur Lubricates Automobile Thoroughly but Overlooked the License Number.

"Giles," said De Whizz to his chauffeur, before he started on his run across the state, "have you oiled the machine thoroughly?"

"Yes, sir."

"Are you sure, Giles?"

"Yes, sir. I have filled the springs and the engine reservoir and I have greased the cornet piston, the plumbum, the exhaust pipe, the muffled tread, the thingumbob, the rigamajig and both the hot boxes."

"Are you sure those are all the parts you have oiled, Giles?"

"Yes, sir."

"You have forgotten the most important place of all. Take the car and squirt a few drops of oil on the license number so that the dust will collect on it and make it hard to read. Always remember to lubricate the license number, Giles."—Lippincott's.

ISN'T HE MEAN?



Bigley—Aren't you afraid to face home after forgetting your wife's package?

Littleton—Not at all; the minute I reach the house I'll start praising the biscuits I had for breakfast.

As It Used to Be.

"Have you got a good part?" asks the friend of the actor who has been engaged to play in Bill Shakespeare's company at the Globe theater.

"Patrish," answered the player. "I've got 'Mercurio' in 'Romeo and Juliet.' I'm glad, because I think if a fellow can do one or two seasons in Shakespeare's plays he can get a big enough reputation to go into melodrama."

—Life.

Too Much of a Strain.

"I don't think grand opera in English will be any improvement."

"You don't?"

"No. When I go to a grand opera in French I know I can't understand what they're singing, and I take it easy. But the strain to try to understand English as the grand opera stars will sing it will just about drive me crazy."

Graduation in Exercise.

Acquaintance—Nudge, you look tired. Still holding that job in the department store? It's time you were promoted.

Young Father—Well, I have been, in a sort of way. I'm a counter jumper in the daytime and a floor walker at night.

Once.

"Once I entertained an angel unaware."

"How was that?"

"I had met a lady who was starring in musical comedy and I invited her and the gentleman who was with her to dinner. Later I learned that he was backing her show."

His Old Job.

"Have you never done any work?" asked the considerate lady, as she cut the third piece of pie.

"Yes, ma'am," replied Hungry Hank. "I used to work at bossin' me chauffeur an' me valet. I was a nabob in 'em days, ma'am."

Encouragement.

"Well," said one art critic, "I think your efforts have improved the display of public statuary in one respect."

"What is that?"

"You don't see wooden Indians in front of cigar stores any more."

Such Is Life.

"Well, you are famous now, my boy. Four old landlords has placed a tablet on the house you occupied so many years."

"Is that so? He never would paper it while I was there."

Set a Hot Pace.

The Friend—Have you used your flying machine?

The Inventor—No; but my wife has. She used it for kindling last week."

Its Mission.

"I regard the hobble skirt as a highly reformatory agent."

"How do you make that out?"

"Because it compels one to walk in the straight and narrow path."

Scorcher's Preference.

"Automobiling isn't so good in cold weather as in warm, is it?"

"Better," replied Mr. Chuggins, "provided it's cold enough to keep the con-stables indoors."

A Dangerous Crossing.

"And," said the fortune teller, "an enemy will shortly cross your path."

"Gee!" quoth the automobilist. "I hope he does it where there ain't any speed limits."—Puck.

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A hand-drawn illustration of a steam locomotive.

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Richmond Terminal

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Entered as SECOND-CLASS MATTER June 22, 1901 at RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA under the ACT OF CONGRESS of March 3, 1879.

SATURDAY, April 15, 1911.



If the office central distributing delivery is taken from Macdonald avenue and Sixth St., there is a movement to get it into the Morehead building at Eighth and Macdonald opposite Mechanics Bank.

The city council will not bring the question of Richmond Channel to a vote of the people this election, as the question of wharf and tunnel has the right-of-way. Councilman Wyatt favors channel and the tunnel and wharf is favored by Councilman Follett.

The Terminal respectfully acknowledges the receipt from U. S. Senator George Perkins of a copy of the Statistical Abstract of the United States from the Department of Commerce and Labor and also a report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of Precious Metals in the United States. Senator Perkins has our thanks.

A bill has passed both houses of Congress giving permission for consolidation of post offices. So now it appears that Point Richmond, Alcatraz, Stege, San Pablo and Richmond will be consolidated into a post office central and rural delivery along San Pablo Road in Contra Costa County may be ordered from Richmond instead of from Berkeley as at present.

GET THE BUSINESS FOR IT IS HERE.

If the banks of Richmond would loan money, there would soon be a dense population which would bring business returns many fold. For the reason that our banks are not loaning money to home builders hundreds of thousands of dollars go out of Richmond's circulation every pay day to building and loan associations which, it appears, should be kept here. Then, if the banks at Healdsburg can loan money at seven per cent, the same rate in Richmond would earn for our local banks many a golden nest egg.

There are hundreds of improvements that would be made in Richmond when the banks which are all flourishing, settle this question, as home-builders would rather borrow from banks than from building and loan sources, although the home building and loan association at San Luis Obispo, financed by local capital, has proven very satisfactory, where hundreds of pretty substantial homes have been erected, and all are satisfied, both borrower and lender. In a few weeks, if all rumors are correct, there will be organized a building and loan system which will be in its permanent home at Macdonald ave. and Tenth st.

DOINGS OF PEOPLE.

All tourists visit Grand Canyon. Contractors are securing their painting for J. Cruickshank.

Mrs. L. S. Perry of Berkeley is building two-story houses near Macdonald-ave.

The East Shore & Suburban Ry. Co. are re-ballasting their track on Ohio Avenue.

Dr. L. C. Smith is another arrival from the west side in the Berry building.

H. E. Wyatt has been forced into the list of runners for council-

man; also, H. L. Penry.

WANTED-Income property or lots near Macdonald Ave. Have several people who want to buy: 333 1st Nat. Bank Bldg., Oakland.

B. Schapiro, "real estate prince," will leave for his European tour on May 14, and will sail from New York on the Steamer Mauretania.

Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Cray of Boone, Iowa are visiting Richmond guests of their son, Charles Cray, Cashier of the First National Bank of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Dowdell are late arrivals and they have taken apartments at Montemar. They visit Grand Canyon Park almost every day. Mr. and Mrs. Dowdell are from Kansas City.

Former Governor Ochsenteiter of South Dakota, contemplates the purchase of property on Tewkesbury Heights, near Grand Canyon Park, this city, where he will probably build and reside during his stay with his family at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition.

R. B. Hooper, Esq., former president of the Chamber of Commerce at Clarkston, was in Richmond this week, visited Grand Canyon Park this week. Mrs. Hooper purchased two lots on the Heights and she hopes to be settled there in her future home, before the Panama-Pacific Exposition.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE AT PRIVATE SALE.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MANUEL COSTA, DECEASED. Notice is hereby given that under authority of an order of sale granted by the Superior Court of the County of Contra Costa, State of California, dated April 10th, 1911, I will sell at private sale, subject to confirmation by the above-entitled court, all the right, title and interest of the estate of Manuel Costa, deceased in and to the following described real estate situated at Stege, in the County of Contra Costa, State of California, and particularly described as follows, to-wit:

An undivided one-half interest in Lot Number Eleven (11) of the Week Addition to Bay View Park as said lot is marked, shown and delineated on that certain map filed in the office of the County Recorder of said Contra Costa County on the 25th day of March, 1907, and entitled, "Map of the Week Addition to Bay View Park."

The sale will be made on or after Wednesday, the 10th day of May, 1911, and bids in writing will be received by the undersigned at the Tax Collector's Office, in the Court House at the Town of Martinez, County of Contra Costa, State of California, or such bids may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of Contra Costa, State of California. Terms of sale: Cash; ten percent payable on acceptance of bid and the balance on confirmation of sale by the said Superior Court.

April 13th, 1911.

MARTIN W. JOOST, Administrator of the Estate of Manuel Costa, Deceased.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE 1911

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

All persons, firms, companies, corporations and associations are required to deliver to the Assessor's office, Martinez, immediately, a statement under oath of all the property, both real and personal, owned or claimed by him, her or them, or in their possession, or held in trust for others, at 12 o'clock meridian on

First Monday of March, 1911

in accordance with the new constitution. Refusal or neglect to make such sworn statement of all property owned or held in trust, will subject the person so refusing or neglecting to make such sworn statement to the full penalty of the law.

All property owners should see that their property is correctly described on the assessment roll.

Immediate attention is necessary, as work on the roll has already been commenced. Proper blanks may be had at the Assessor's office or of his deputies.

All statements must be in the Assessor's office on or before the 1st day of May, 1911.

THE STATE POLL TAX of Two Dollars and ROAD POLL TAX of Two Dollars each are now due and payable at this office, or to a Deputy Assessor.

STATE POLL TAX and ROAD POLL TAX are due and payable on demand.

GEORGE MEESE, County Assessor.

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POULSEN HAS MOVED STORE

The Poulsen Jeweler's establishment, together with its optician's department in charge of V. W. Poulsen, has been moved to the elegant new store room in the New Block, near the corner of Sixth and Tenth Avenues. Patrons and the public in general are requested to bear this change in mind. People are invited to visit and inspect the store and its splendid fittings. They are second to none in the Bay section.

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CURRENT GOSSIP.

Macdonald Avenue is the center. At Sixth st. and Macdonald will be given series of hand concerts under Thornlough, master of time and tune.

Some miscreants thought it was funny to strew the only thoroughfare between the center and the west side with broken bottles. Several automobile and motor-cycle tires have been punctured.

TUG OF WAR.

For many months attempts were made to secure a crossing at the Southern Pacific railroad just outside the city limits. This street crosses through the southern part of our city through the McClure ranch and enters West Richmond at Richmond ave. For some weeks there has been no work done, up on canal dredging, the canal to be a shipping terminal at the foot of Third st. Law suits seem to hold back improvements temporarily. The anxiety grows greater as it is expected that the Key Route will come in through North Berkeley over Richmond boulevard, down Ashland and back over the Boulevard to Oakland over this same crossing so much in dispute. Over Richmond Boulevard, or Barrett Ave., the Key Route is coming as far as the Santa Fe depot, the Key Route is coming whether the proposed Boulevard crossing is granted or not.

About fifty loyal Richmond citizens representing the west side attended the hearing before the railroad commission at the Ferry Building Tuesday, but with no flattering prospects of success. Hearing in Superior Court is set for April 27.

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